

Newsletter

May 2017

Dear Parents,

It's been a memorable month. We loved our recent *Book Week* and eagerly went to host *Book Bear's* cave in our school library each day to see what was in store. Highlights included kind parents reading stories to us each day in their native language, little books in English, Thai and Mandarin compiled by our students and a lovely BIG book illustrated with considerable skill by Mr. Darren, a performance of the *Goldilocks and Three Bears* story by our teachers, sparkly bear-shaped biscuits that we made for snack, and finally, a very exciting *Bear Hunt* of our own in our school garden!

Our topics of study around the classrooms have been enjoyable- we are now experts in *Goldilocks*, *the Bear Hunt* and *The Hungry Caterpillar* among other stories and we know 'nearly' all the biology involved in transforming ourselves from caterpillars to butterflies! In Kindergarten, we have learnt ways to save water and what the concepts of dissolving and full and empty are—all acquired in exciting, constructive ways that make knowledge more meaningful to our young learners. Consequently, we have just completed our end of topic assessments for each child and the results will be taken into consideration as we write our Term 3 reports that will be presented to you on June 21.

In the canteen, the most popular dish of the month appears to be fried rice with omelette and chicken, and in second place, roast chicken and vegetables are well accepted, as long as rice also accompanies it!

In our community news, we were honoured to have been able to donate recently to the very worthy efforts of the *People Eye Care Foundation* in supporting rural hospitals in Thailand to provide cataract surgery to people in need.

In sad news, we have to say good luck and farewell to Ms. Sarah who has been an inspirational teacher at our new school. We wish her well in her family's move to America very soon.

Next month, we will hold a little Sports Day at school. Please note the change of date on the school calendar, from Saturday 17 June to Wednesday 7 June. We currently love the imaginative games and activities we play each week during our PE lessons and we will ensure our annual sports day is as fun as these - hopefully the rain will hold off and we can play outdoors on our grass.

Our school year finishes on July 6 and the new 2017-2018 school year commences on Wednesday, August 30.

Please let us know as soon as you can if you are re- enrolling for the upcoming academic year and feel free to join us in our GET SET GO-Summer camp running from August 7-25 which should be lots of fun too.

In the meantime, let's have fun this month and learn wonderful things at the same time.

Ms Shayne



Important Dates and Events

21 June	School reports to parents
7 June	Sports Day
Every Thursday 10-11.30am	BAMBI playgroup at Bright Skies
6 July	Last day of school year

Updates

Bright Skies now offers these education programmes:

- English (full or half day)
- English and Mandarin (full day)
- English and French (full day)

Nursery Class



Dear Parents,

Everyone is growing up so fast in Nursery class and I am so proud of my pupils' behaviour in school and how they have embraced the routines of the day, their confidence and manners.

In class, we have been having so much fun with our *Animal Stories* topic. Our *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* storybook gave us so many learning opportunities with role playing, singing, sequencing activities, looking at small, medium and large and cooking and eating yummy porridge as well as identifying the cause and effect of Goldilocks' behaviour as she followed the smell of the delicious porridge to the three bears house!

Last week was Book Week with a bear's theme. We enjoyed a special Goldilocks and the three bears play performed by the teachers which really helped our understanding of the story. Book Bear was also in school and he invited us to a festive teddy bears picnic where we enjoyed teddy bear shaped sandwiches, teddy bear's favourite juice and teddy bear shaped cakes that we made and decorated ourselves. They were delicious! On the last day of Book Week, we made bear hats to wear and we all went on a bear hunt around the school just as they do in one of our favourite books *Going on a bear hunt*. It was so much fun!

Our Animal Stories topic continues with *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* where we continue our focus on much loved tales, looking at what happens next as well as the stages of development of a caterpillar to a butterfly. This tale invites us to do lots of counting and sequencing of all the delicious things that the caterpillar likes to eat in the story!

As a final note, it is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to Bright Skies International School as my family and I make the move from Thailand to America. I have loved working at Bright Skies and with your lovely children and I wish them the very best for the future.

With Very Best Wishes,

Mrs Sarah x



Kindergarten Class



Dear parents,

We have had a wet and fun learning environment this term as we learned all the wonders of Water! Our inner scientists have started to blossom as we have delved into creating simple hypotheses, experimenting, and recording results. Daily activities such as our Sink-or-Float Tub were great ways to encourage students to start giving an educated guess and being able to disagree in a healthy productive manner. Outside of the classroom laboratory, we have learned everything that water can be used for and responsible ways to use it. Unique water demonstrations helped to show the importance of using less. We had so much fun having a toy car wash in the garden and making a water filter!

This term included our Book Week as well. I would like to extend a sincere "Thank you" to all the parents who participated. The children thoroughly enjoyed all of the wonder of having their favourite books read by mums and dads. We saw an astonishing increase in our students' excitement with reading and their readiness to select a book from the shelf and try to read it on their own.

Soon we will be entering our final topic of the academic year: Jobs and Professions. We will explore the working world and all the opportunities these young learners have to follow their dreams! Some students have already decided what they want to be when they have grown up! We are ready to encourage any passion as well as show students all the options they may have never heard about. We would also be very grateful for parent volunteers to come in and give us a small presentation of the jobs they do to our students!

Kind regards,

Mr Darren



Mandarin Class

Dear Parents,

We enjoyed our topic *Water, water Everywhere* this month. Xilixilihualahuala yuxialaile!

This month we focused on the science side of *water* and learned where rain comes from, how to make ice and the names of animals that live in the sea. We performed some exciting experiments in class related to the concepts of *Float or Sink?* and *What can be dissolved in water?*

Our students also made their own little pot plants by filling a pot plant with soil and seeds. They watered their plants every day in class and observed the progress of how their plants grew, thus encouraging their sense of responsibility and empathy for living things!

In school, we also celebrated a bear-themed *Book Week*. Our school mascot, *Meimei* brought her good friend *Book Bear* to school and we had happy reading moments with him in our school library. Kind parent volunteers came in to school to read favourite stories from home, we performed the *Goldilocks and the three bears story* and we even went on a bear hunt in our garden!

We are looking forward to seeing what good experiences our continued studies of *Water* can bring us next month in Chinese class. *Water* is a precious element in our daily lives, and we are going to learn how best to save it! *Jobs people do* will be our next topic of study and we will provide to more information to you on this very soon.

Kind regards,

Zhou laoshi



Thai Class

Sawatdee!

Thai lessons have been *sanook* (fun), and our love of books has been extended into our Thai lessons through what was a very enjoyable *Book Week* this month. In our Thai lessons we created our own books about a bear, we listened to a selection of Thai stories and we practised our counting skills to ten, using a toy dolls house and toy family members to count and discuss.

Keeping active helps us learn Thai more effectively and in class this month, we learnt the names of body parts through a *Simon Says* based game and we assembled a paper body of ourselves in the Art Room. Our native Thai speakers are doing well and our non – native speakers are enthusiastically trying their best to pronounce Thai words correctly and follow the actions to our tasks with a smile!

Dee maak everyone!

Khru Natcha!

